

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 SAJ-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /124 W

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R 131109Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8358

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 1633

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, NV, XA, UV

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF DRV DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 171607

1. WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT UPPER VOLTA WHICH PRESENT RECOGNIZES BOTH RVN AND DRN, IS LIKELY TO CHANGE ITS POSITION REGARDING PRG IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. APPARENTLY A PRG DELEGATION VISITED OUAGADOUGOU SEVERAL YEARS AGO WITHOUT SUCCESS. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY PRESENT DRV/PRG DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT UPPER VOLTA. AT LEAST THERE HAVE BEEN NO VISITS TO OUAGADOUGOU EITHER BY DRV OR PRG IN RECENT MONTHS.

2. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT UPPER VOLTA HAS RECENT ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC AND NORTH KOREA. WITH REGARD TO PRG, GOUV IS LIKELY TO BE INFLUENCED IN FUTURE BY ATTITUDES OF ZIARE, NIGER, NIGERIA, TOTO, GHANA AND IVORY COAST IF SEVERAL OF THESE STATES WERE TO RECOGNIZE PRG, UPPER VOLTA WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY FOLLOW SUIT. WE DO NOT BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD GET OUT IN FRONT OF  
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OTHER MODERATE WEST AFRICAN STATES.

3. UPPER VOLTA'S CURRENT ATTITUDE REGARDING THE PRG DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE CAN COUNT ON ITS VOTE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES WHERE QUESTION OF PRG PARTICIPATION MAY BE RAISED. BECAUSE OF PRESSURE FROM MORE RADICAL AFRICAN STATES, IT IS LIKELY THAT, IN SUCH CASES, UPPER VOLTA REPS WOULD ABSTAIN OR BE CONVENIENTLY ABSENT.

4. ALTHOUGH UPPER VOLTA RECOGNIZES DRV, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. RELATIONS BETWEEN RVN AND UPPER VOLTA DO EXIST BU ARE TNUOUS AT BEST. RVN CHARGE IN ABIDJAN IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO UPPER VOLTA BUT SELDOM VISITS OUAGADOUGOU. WE ARE TOLD THAT AN AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO IVORY COAST AND THAT ORIGINAL INTENTION WAS TO HAVE HIM ACCREDITED TO UPPER VOLTA AS WELL. HOWEVER, HIS CONFIRMATION BY SENATE IN SAIGON WAS REPORTEDLY LIMITED TO IVORY COAST. IF ABOVE IS CORRECT AND IF RVN IS ANXIOUS TO KEEP UPPER VOLTA ON ITS SIDE, THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD TIME TO GIVE THIS AMBASSADOR DOUBLE ACCREDITATION. PRESENCE OF RVN AMBASSADOR IN OUAGADOUGOU FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS WOULD BE LIKELY TO STRENGTHEN TIES OR AT LEAST TO REMIND GOUV OFFICIALS OF STATE OF THEIR CURRENT POLICY VIS-AVIS RVN.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE SAIGON'S AND ABIDJAN'S REACTION TO SUGGESTION CONTAINED PARA 4 ABOVE.  
GRAHAM

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## Message Attributes

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